## COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OVERSIGHT DIVISION FISCAL NOTE

<u>L.R. No.</u>: 0624-01 <u>Type</u>: Original

**Subject:** Optometry; Insurance - Medical

**Bill Summary:** This proposal prohibits a health insurance plan from requiring an

optometrist to provide additional services or materials at a limited or lower fee unless the services are reimbursed as covered services under the

contract.

## State Fiscal Highlights

• No direct fiscal impact on the state is anticipated.

## **Local Fiscal Highlights**

• No direct fiscal impact on local political subdivisions is anticipated.

## Fiscal Analysis

Officials from the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Health and Senior Services, the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, the Department of Public Safety - Missouri Highway Patrol, the Department of Social Services and the Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan each assume the current proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

However, the **Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan** also states that members could pay additional out-of-pocket expenses because providers could charge the full fee for non-covered services rather than the discount fee.

Under this proposal, optometrists may be authorized to charge higher fees. Also, this legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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Mickey Wilson, CPA Director January 12, 2015 Ross Strope Assistant Director January 12, 2015